

**Remarks**

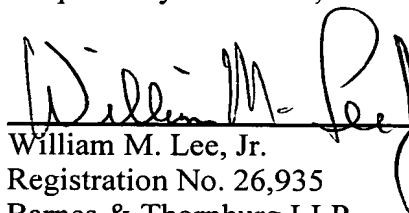
The above amendments are being made in order to remove multiple dependency and improper multiple dependency before calculation of the national filing fee for the United States. Should any multiple dependency remain, that is unattended, and the Patent and Trademark Office is requested to cancel any remaining multiple dependent claims without prejudice before calculation of the national filing fee.

The International Preliminary Examination Report reaches the conclusion that the claims meet the requirements of novelty and inventive step (nonobviousness). It is submitted that the same result should occur in the United States.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

April 11, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Lee, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

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